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October 22, 2001

## BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: Application of Noboru ASAUCHI and Koichi OTSUKI  
METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR SUPPLY OF EXPENDABLES  
Assignee: **SEIKO EPSON CORPORATION**  
Our Ref. Q66728

J1011 U.S. PRO  
09/982749  
10/22/01

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto is the application identified above including thirty-six (36) sheets of the specification, including the claims and abstract and twenty (20) sheets of drawings. **The executed Declaration and Power of Attorney and Assignment will be submitted at a later date.**

The Government filing fee is calculated as follows:

Total claims	<u>33</u>	-	<u>20</u>	=	<u>13</u>	x	\$18.00	=	\$234.00
Independent claims	<u>1</u>	-	<u>3</u>	=		x	\$84.00	=	\$0.00
Base Fee									\$740.00
<b>TOTAL FEE</b>								<b>\$974.00</b>	

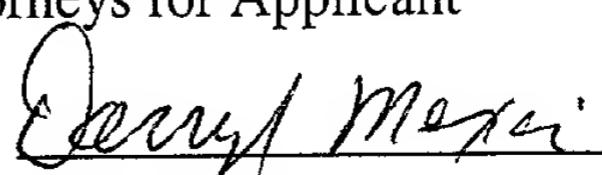
A check for the statutory filing fee of \$974.00 is attached. You are also directed and authorized to charge or credit any difference or overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 and any petitions for extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

Priority is claimed from October 20, 2000 and January 10, 2001, based on Japanese Patent Application Nos. 2000-321325 and 2001-002032, respectively. The priority documents will be filed at a later date.

**Since the anniversary of the priority date fell on a Saturday, the filing of this application on Monday, October 22, 2001 is sufficient to obtain the benefit of priority.**

Respectfully submitted,  
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC

Attorneys for Applicant

By:   
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Registration No. 23,063

DM/ob